

**Arden Forest Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 7:00 PM**

**Via Zoom: In attendance: Carol Larson, Jen Borders, Jill Althouse-Wood Bev Clendening. Absent: Dave Jones. Meeting called to order 7:07 PM**

1. **Administrative:** We approved October minutes.
  - Jen looked at the Fire Permit to arden.delaware.gov. We have some changes. We need a signature line. And we need to change the out-of-order pages. Corrections need to be made, before Cecelia can make it interactive.
  - Please update volunteer hours for the last month.
2. **Finance:** No new report. No changes. Ron's Tree service has been paid \$3000. We need to check on that. Ron still has another tree to bill us for Mill Race Road. Carol talked to Red Tail about amending their contract. has a receipt to submit for ash treatments. Jill submitted receipt for the Arden Patch. Carol bought plants and mulch for Sunset Farms hoping to get reimbursed from Schroeder.
3. **Current Grants/Projects**
  - Sherwood Restoration Project: Carol is still graphing the data to do. Foresite will be doing a final report.
  - 2409 Woodland: Some Mile-a-minute we have to watch. not a priority.
  - End of Hillside/Sherwood Forest planting circles: Jill needs to take photos.
  - Surface Water Management: Nothing new
- 4 **Boundaries/Encroachment**
  - Sunset Farms: Sod removed, brought in plastic barrier, mulched, brought in plants to be planted on Friday/Sat. Lots of invasives to deal with there.
  - Christine and Don Montgomery at 2033 Marsh Road. They have a pipe draining into woods. Carol needs to talk to them.
5. **Drainage/Erosion**
  - Jill will talk to Dave Nordheimer to continue to monitor erosion at Broadbent. Jill will ask him to take a photo from a stake point. Carol checked out the bamboo in the gully. We need to get rid of it next on our list.
  - We will check Sunset Farms for signs of erosion. Carol will talk to DNREC Debris Pit about the water direction.
6. **Invasive Species Control**
  - On hold: Jill talked to Larry Strange about drone video and 360 photography to map the ivy. He is talking about winter.
  - Bev looked into iMap invasives. Delaware is now part of the cooperative. Bev signed up and is working to use the program.
  - SLF report: Traps are still catching. We will be going into scraping egg case phase soon.
  - Maples are catching most right now.
  - Knotweed is looking better. Carol found a new patch at Bryan leasehold that she wants to treat. Carol is confident we can knock it out next year. Some at the Aumack leasehold. -- Discussed deer population control. Need to prepare Arden

for possibility of population control by State Forester so we can preserve our understory.

7. **Paths/Maintenance**

--Sherwood Bridge project on hold due to budget constraints.

--We need to retrieve a bridge from where it washed away downstream. We need 4-6 people. Checked weight when weeding at 2409 Woodland.

-- trunk still across the path near Bev's house has been removed.

8. **Removals/Monitoring/Inventory of Trees**

--Oak behind Dela Bryan that is uprooting. Mixed opinions about the tree. We need a second opinion. It would be about \$1800 for removal. We will watch it.

9. **Community Involvement and Communications**

--Happy Hour planting party scheduled for Sunset Farms for November 13 at 2:30 PM. Carol will get cider. Jill will get wine.

--Buzz Ware will be certified as a habitat. Responsibility for exterior of Buzz is Civic responsibility. Carol will talk to Civic about certifying.

--We are well under way process of certification for the Ardens for Community Wildlife Habitat. The Gardeners Gild is going to be a part and possibly pay for the certification. --New LEAF winter edition. Jen is writing article on birds. Carol write about Arden Mill Race Preserve.

--December page entry: Deer Population

10. **New Business**

--Arden-Mill Race preserve was cited for code violation from NCC for weeds over 8in and pile of wood. We need to remediate it by November 20. We have requested for an extension.

--Work Party November at Arden MillRace Preserve, November 19, 10 AM. Jen will put work party on Ardenistas.

-- Zoom variance Hearing for Sunset Farms. November 19 at 6 PM. Get people to call in. Jeff needs to send letter in.

--Community Planning is working on a new guidance policy. Jen will send policy. Wants Forest Committee to review. They also want us to review our Forest Stewardship policy periodically. Part of the policy that applies to Forest:

*The following long-range plans should be developed and maintained for the Village by the*

*CPC. Each plan will be created in conjunction with the appropriate Town committee(s) if any:*

- a. *a community-wide environmental stewardship plan including forests, greens, leaseholds, and storm water management with input from Ardentown and Ardencroft.*

**Meeting adjourned 8:33 PM. Next meeting is Wednesday, December 9 at 7 PM.**

**Actionable items**

- Jen go to Cecelia with changes to fire permit.**
- Where does the mail go for the Forest Committee? Jill will ask Liz Resko. -Get forest committee email forwarded to Carol's email.**
- Volunteer HOURS!!!!** <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1MwKXYyulr2fxEVwli-Qj97sgXKGPPJ2a/view?usp=sharing> **-Carol will send Jen her spending for Sunset Farms rehab.**
- Dave Jones, where you on invertebrate count**
- Bev will do readings on the water**
- Carol needs to graph data for Sherwood Forest Restoration**
- Jill—take pictures of the circles in Sherwood**
- Jill Talk to Dave Nordheimer about erosion at Broadbent leasehold.**
- Carol will follow-up to DNREC Debris Pit about the erosion.**
- Bev to look into iMap invasives**
- Need to get bridge that was washed downstream—ORGANIZE**
- Carol will get second opinion on Dela Bryan tree.**
- Jen will announce work party at Arden Mill Race Road**